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EVENT
COMICS

EVENT COMICS™ PRESENTS...

Thrax™

"HARDWIRED FOR ACTION"

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GUY ONCE FLEW AN AIRPLANE INTO THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING. NINETEEN FORTY-SEVEN--YOU CAN LOOK IT UP. THE F.A.A. AND NATIONAL GUARD SAY IT COULD NEVER HAPPEN TODAY.
YEAH, RIGHT.
AT FIVE A.M., UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS, THREE SHIPS SKIM THE HUDSON RIVER.
THEY SNAKE THROUGH THE CONCRETE CANYONS, ZEROING IN ON THE SEVENTEEN HUNDRED FOOT PARAGON TOWER; HEADQUARTERS FOR A WORLD-WIDE TELECOM-MUNICATION EMPIRE.
THEY SCOOT UP THE WALLS AND HOVER OVER THE FLAT-TOPPED ROOF LIKE YELLOWJACKETS OVER A BEER BOTTLE.

IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT
DEPLOY THE RAILS SILENTLY.
THE ESCORTS DISAPPEAR, LEAVING THE DREADNAUGHT AND CREW TO THEIR LETHAL ENTERPRISE.
WITH PRACTICED PERFECTION, THE TEAM GOES TO WORK.
WITHIN TWENTY MINUTES, A RAIL HAS BEEN SET UP AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE TOWER COMMANDING A 360O VIEW OF THE CITY.

UP AND RUNNING DR. SHRIKE.
GOOD ENOUGH.
HEY, DOC, WE GONNA LEAVE THAT HARDWARE *HERE?*
SO?
IT WEIGHS A *TON*- YOU AIN'T GONNA WANT TO REPACK THAT STUFF, NOT IF WE GOT TO *HOT-FOOT* IT OUT OF *HERE.*
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE HARDWARE, MEKLOR. IT *WON'T* INTERFERE WITH OUR *ESCAPE.*
WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR? DIAMONDS?
DOCTOR, WE HAVE *ENTRY.*
LET'S GO.
NOT EVEN *CLOSE.*

UPSTATE.
AS WE REPORTED EARLIER, THE TWO JOURNALISTS ARE SAFE, RESCUED BY THE MYSTERIOUS POLESTAR.
SIGHTED TWO DAYS AGO IN SINGAPORE AND NOW IN THE STRAITS OF MALACCA, HAS THIS SULTRY HERO FOUND A NEW...
CHRIST! YOU'D THINK HE WAS THE SECOND COMING!
THESE IMAGES SHOT BY THE FIRST MATE ABOARD A PASSING FREIGHTER...
LOOK AT THAT COSTUME. HE'S A FAG.
ENOUGH. GIMME THAT THING!
CLICK
JOHNN!
I WAS WATCHING THAT!
OH NO YOU DONT...
ADMIT IT. YOU DON'T LIKE THE GUY BECAUSE HE'S GETTING ALL THE PRESS.
HE'S SAVED TWO JOURNALISTS? I MUST'VE SAVED OVER TWO THOUSAND PEOPLE. AND NOBODY KNOWS IT!

POOR BABY! MAYBE YOU OUGHT TO HIRE A PUBLICIST.
I'VE KILLED MORE PEOPLE THAN HE'S SAVED!
YEAH. LET'S PUT THAT ON THE EVENING NEWS. YOU'LL BE JUST AS POPULAR AS O. J.
AMBER. WHY DIDN'T YOU PHONE?
BECAUSE YOU TURNED ALL YOUR SYSTEMS OFF, DON JUAN. SUIT UP!
BIG TROUBLE DOWNTOWN, AND THE INSIDE SCOOP IS... PARAGON'S AT THE CENTRE OF IT!
"THOSE NEW TELE-COM HOTSHOTS, RIGHT? AREN'T THEY ON THE DIRECTOR'S SHORT LIST?"
WHAT A DUMP!
IT'S THE DECADENT WEST, PAL. GET USED TO IT.
WHAT'S THE SKINNY?
"LIKE I SAID, WE GOT THE INSIDE SCOOP... BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE ELSE IS OUT TO CRACK THEM THE HARD WAY."

A RAIDING PARTY HIT THEIR OFFICE TOWER ABOUT AN HOUR AGO, PACKING A LOT OF ORDINANCE.
I TELL YOU, BRYCE HAS GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS ONE.
KOOM
DO I HAVE TIME TO TAKE A SHOWER?
NOPE.
PEOPLE ARE DYING. THE DIRECTOR WANTS US TO LOOK GOOD.
WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON UP THERE!
YOU, NEWSHOUND! GET BEHIND THE BARRIER. NOW!

YOU ARE SO SUAVE!
HEY, CHANDRI... CHECK OUT THE BATHROOM! BET IT REMINDS YOU OF THE BLACK HOLE OF CALCUTTA.
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?
THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS THERE'S NOTHING HERE THAT'S REGULATION.
I'M REGULATION!
THE SUN CASTS IT'S LIGHT ON A CITY IN CRISIS.
FROM FORTY-NINTH STREET SOUTH, NOTHING MOVES BUT EMERGENCY VEHICLES.
SPECULATION RUNS RAMPANT. ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS... LIBERTARIAN GUN NUTS... EVERYTHING BUT THE TRUTH.
WE HAVE TWO PRISONERS, ILSA. -- A CLEANING LADY AND A GUARD. DO YOU WANT TO ASK THEM ABOUT THE CODE?
NOT NECESSARY. WE'RE ALMOST IN.

WHAT DO YOU WANT? WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.
HA HA HA... AN HONEST MAN!
NOT TO WORRY LITTLE MAN. YOU'RE NO MORE AT RISK THAN ANYONE ELSE IN MANHATTAN.
I REPEAT, UNLESS WE RECEIVE TEN MILLION DOLLARS IN NEGOTIABLE SECURITIES BY NOON WE WILLL OBLITERATE LOWER MANHATTAN.
MEKMAN, HOW'S SHE HANGIN?
I'M CHECKING OUT THE RAIL INSTALLATION.
ILSA SHOULD BE INTO SECURITY BY NOW.
CLOAKING DEVICE WORKING LIKE A CHARM.
HEY, MAYBE I CAN GET ONE OF THOSE FOR MY BATHROOM WHADDAYA THINK, CHANDRI?
AS YOU CAN SEE I'M LAUGHING MY BUTT OFF.

REFLEX ENHANCERS FULLY OPERATIONAL -- PHEW! DON'T YOU EVER TAKE A SHOWER?
NOPE
HE'S PUNGENT, BUT GOOD TO GO.
ATTENTION STRIKE SHIP!
DIRECTOR BRYCE!
JOHN, WE'VE GOT CONFIRMATION ON OUR PERPS.
IT'S THE GUILD. LISTEN UP, PEOPLE, THIS IS A HIGH STAKES GAME AND IT PUTS THEM IN A WHOLE NEW LEAGUE WHATEVER HAPPENS... DO NOT PERMIT THEM TO DOWNLOAD PARAGON'S DATA CORE.
THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE REALLY AFTER.
JOHN, GOOD LUCK...
WE'RE TRANSMITTING THIS IMAGE FROM OUR ORION COMSAT -- THERE'S A TWO SECOND DELAY THAT'S THE RAIL GUN SYSTEM AROUND THE PERIMETER.
PG-29937

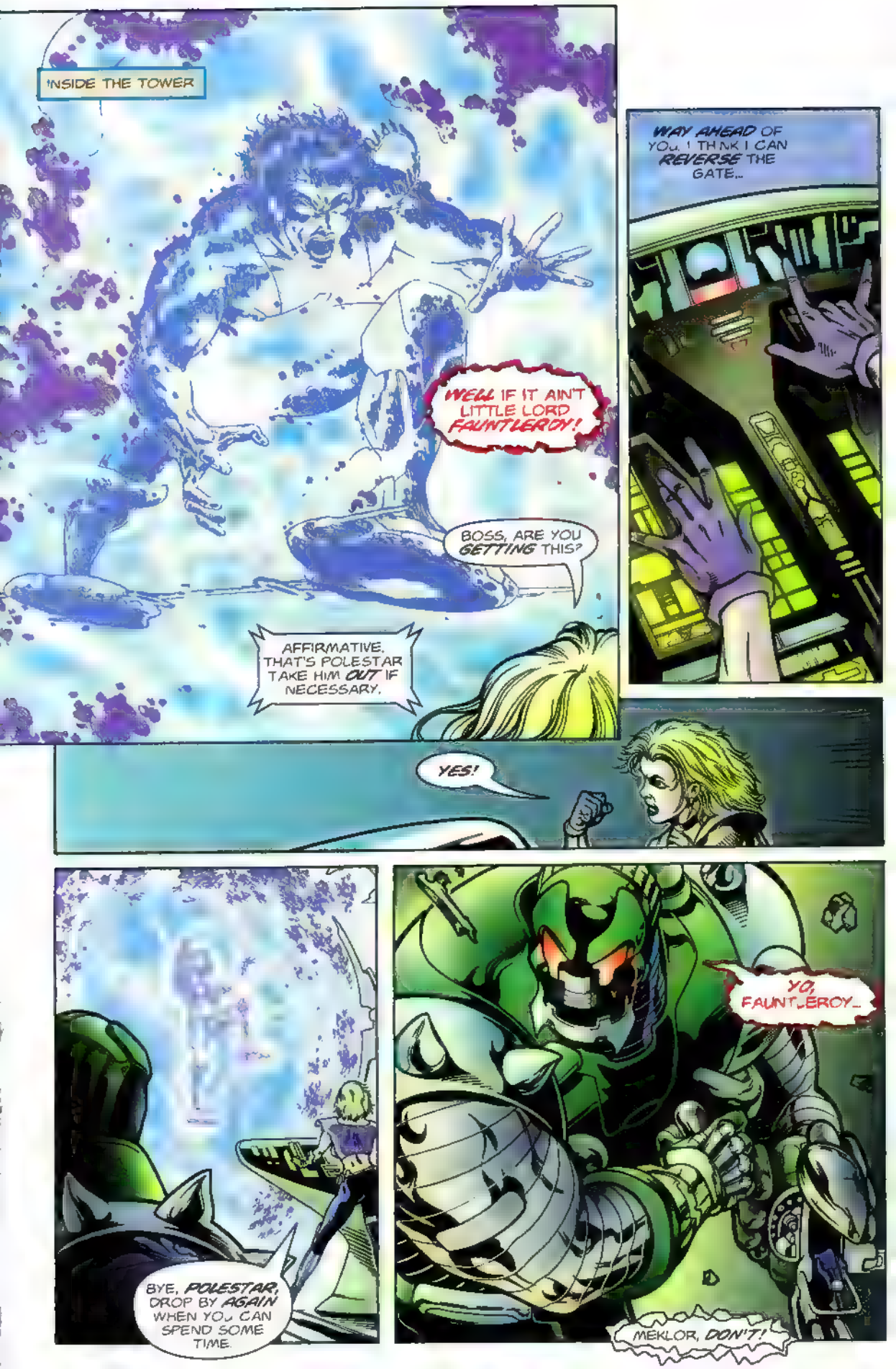
...AND PLEASE CONFINE YOUR MAYHEM TO GUILD MEMBERS ONLY
YOU KNOW ME, BOSS -- I JUST LOVE MY WORK!
ANY CLOSER, THEY'LL PICK US UP.
THRAX, PREPARE TO LAUNCH.
DO YOUR THANG, MAN
YOU DON'T JUST JUMP, PAL. YOU GOTTA CONSIDER ATTITUDE.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
HOW CAN YOU SEND ONE MAN IN TO CHALLENGE AN ENTIRE ENHANCED TEAM?
JUST WATCH
YO, ESTELLE! HOW IS YOUR BAD SELF?
STANDING BY ALL SYSTEMS AT 100%.
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
KEEP YOUR MIND ON YOUR MISSION.
YEAH, BUT HOW IS YOUR BAD SELF?

GERONIMOOOO!
ALL SYSTEMS ACTIVATED.
AGENT THRAX IS IN FULL COMBAT MODE.
GOT THAT RIGHT.

THAT'S IT! WE'RE INSIDE.
TOUCH NOTHING UNLESS I TELL YOU.
THERE IT IS.
IRONHART WAS RIGHT ON... THEY DO HAVE A TELEPORTATION DEVICE.
BAXTER, SEE IF YOU CAN TAP INTO THE MAINFRAME
ROHATTAN, PHOTOGRAPH EVERYTHING IN THE ROOM, STARTING WITH THIS CONTROL BOARD
THIS ALMOST SEEMS TO MAKE SENSE... BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ALIEN ABOUT THEM

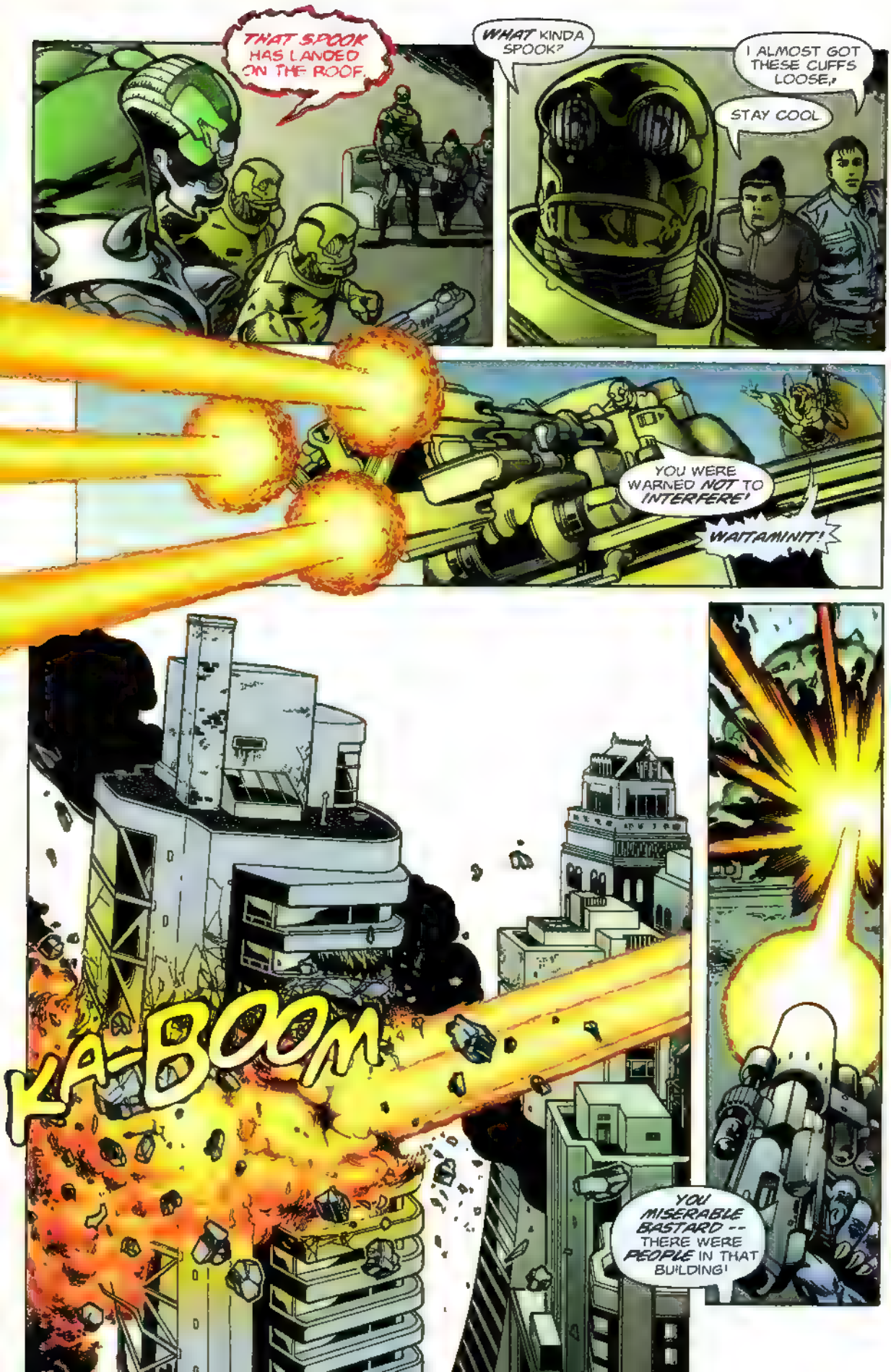
HELL NO! HA HA HA!
ANYONE WANT TO TALK TO THE MAYOR?
TOO QUICKLY TO BE STOPPED, TOO SMALL TO REGISTER ON RADAR, THRAX APPROACHES THE PARAGON TOWER.
INSIDE PARAGON'S SECURITY LAB, THE TELEPORT GATE CRACKLES TO LIFE.
CENTRAL, THE GATE JUST TURNED ON AND SOMEONE'S COMING THROUGH...
WHAT? -- WHO TOUCHED THE CONTROLS?
NO ONE
HE'S GOT SOME KIND OF REPULSOR DEVICE!
MEKLOR! GET IN HERE!
13

HERE I AM!
TOO LATE FOR THAT GIRLS!
HEY!
THAT'S A BIG TEN-FOUR, LITTLE LADY
SHOOT HIM DOWN!
DO YOU THINK YOU'RE FUNNY?
YEAH, KINDA...
BRAKABRAKABRAKABRAKA


INSIDE THE TOWER
WELL IF IT AIN'T LITTLE LORD FAUNTLEROY!
BOSS, ARE YOU GETTING THIS?
AFFIRMATIVE. THAT'S POLESTAR TAKE HIM OUT IF NECESSARY.
WAY AHEAD OF YOU. I THINK I CAN REVERSE THE GATE...
YES!
BYE, POLESTAR, DROP BY AGAIN WHEN YOU CAN SPEND SOME TIME.
YO, FAUNTLEROY...
MEKLOR, DON'T!

HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING FOR THE RIDE HOME!
YOU METAL MORON!
WHAT IF YOU'D MISTIMED IT! THAT THING COULD HAVE BLOWN UP IN OUR FACES
IT WORKED OUT JUST FINE, SO CHILL ALREADY!
DR. SHRIKE...
WE'VE GOT SOME KIND OF FLYING SPOOK UP HERE CHEWING US TO PIECES.
SHOOT HIM DOWN!
WE'RE TRYING!
WHOMP
HE'S TOO CLOSE AND HE MOVES TOO QUICK!
WHOMP
WHOMP

WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE?
BULLOCK DERIVED HOWITZERS, LASER SIGHTED ANTI-AIR CRAFT
DON'T SHOOT... YOU'LL SET OFF OUR OWN ORDINANCE!
THIS DOESN'T SEEM SECURELY MOUNTED..
LOOK AT THIS CRAP! NEXT TIME BUY AMERICAN!
KACHRAK


THAT SPOOK HAS LANDED ON THE ROOF.
WHAT KINDA SPOOK?
I ALMOST GOT THESE CUFFS LOOSE,
STAY COOL.
YOU WERE WARNED NOT TO INTERFERE!
WAITAMINIT!
KA-BOOM
YOU MISERABLE BASTARD -- THERE WERE PEOPLE IN THAT BUILDING!

OH MY GOD... IT'S WORSE THAN THE WORLD TRADE CENTER...
ESTELLE, THAT WAS A RESIDENTIAL BUILDING...
AT SIX-THIRTY, MOST OF THE RESIDENTS MUST HAVE BEEN HOME
THRAX, ARE YOU GETTING THIS?
THRAX?!
SO WHADDAYA GONNA DO ABOUT IT BIRDMAN?
KRUNCH

YOU WANT TO GET EVEN? GET EVEN WITH HIM
THAT'S NEW!
BYE BYE, BIRDMAN...

SOME KIND OF FORCE BLAST --
-- THRAX'S NERVOUS SYSTEM UNAFFECTED.
HE'S RECOVERING.
HEY, DUMPSTER FACE!
CATCH!
BTHOOM
BTHOOM

OH MAAANN... HE'S GETTING UP!
YOU BLEW UP SOME TOYS, BIRDMAN.
THAT'S ALL.
NOW WHAT?
ZZIKT
ZZIKT
THIS IS THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD
EVERYONE INTO THE BUILDING!
LAY DOWN YOUR WEAPONS IMMEDIATELY OR WE WILL SWEEP THE ROOF.
TAKTAKTAKTAK
TAKTAKTAK

WE'RE ALL ALONE UP HERE! THOSE CHOPPERS WILL PICK US TO PIECES.
LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF DODGE, BRO
CALL OFF THOSE CHOPPERS. I CAN STOP THESE GUYS.
BAOOOM
NEVER MIND
WHAT'S WITH THE PRISONERS?
GONE IN THE CONFUSION, SIR.
MAKE MY FRAGGIN' MORNING!
QUICKLY! EVERYBODY INTO THE GATE!

MEKLOR, HELP ME WITH THESE FILES.
WHAT IS THE PROB...
I'M THE PROBLEM - WHO ARE YOU?
KEEP HIM OFF MY BACK FOR THIRTY SECONDS.
YOU GOT IT.
ON MY COUNT, GET READY TO...
CHUD
YOU'RE NO JANITOR..
I'M THE CLEAN-UP WOMAN

HEY, WOODPECKER!
YOU HAD YOUR SHOT
I'VE GOT THE FLES! LET'S GO!
MEKLOR, I NEED YOU NOW!
THRAX-- USE THE PULSE!
THRAX, USE THE PULSE. SHE'S ONE OF OURS.
NOW!

WIRED INTO THRAX'S NERVOUS SYSTEM, THE ABILITY TO GENERATE A POWERFUL ELECTRO MAGNETIC PULSE...
...SCRAMBLING THE STOLEN DATA AS WELL AS OTHER NEARBY ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS.
...INCLUDING THRAX'S INTERNAL HARDWIRING...
-- UNGH --
AAAAAAAA
...AND TO AN EVEN GREATER EXTENT MEKLOR'S AND THE GATES.
SWELL. NOW THE ROOF'S CAVING IN.
THAT'S IT. THRAX JUST WENT OFFLINE

THRAX CAN YOU WALK? I KNOW A WAY OUT
I CAN DO MORE THAN WALK CLEAN-UP WOMAN..
SO HOW IS IT WORKING FOR PARAGON?
BAOOOM
SAFEGUARD GOT ME IN THROUGH A BONDED JANITORIAL SERVICE..
..THREE MORE MONTHS AND I WOULD HAVE BEEN ELIGIBLE FOR HEALTH INSURANCE.
SIR, WE HAVE A LEAK WE'D HAVE THOSE FILES IF SAFEGUARD HADN'T INTERFERED..
THAT'S ENOUGH.
NO EXCUSES. YOUR REPORT ON MY DESK IN THE MORNING
THE BIRDMAN MUST BE BRYCE'S SPECIAL PROJECT. I THINK HE BELONGS WITH US, DON'T YOU?

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IN THE 2ND KILLER ISSUE OF Thrax™ . . .

AMBER AND THRAX TEAM-UP TO TACKLE DRUG LORDS, GUERRILLAS, AND AN AZTEC DEATHGOD!

ON SALE IN FEBRUARY.

DAVE ROSS

Penciler of the following...

- PUNISHER
- SPIDERMAN
- CLOAK & DAGGER
- ALPHA FLIGHT
- AVENGERS WEST COAST
- EXCALIBUR
- FORCEWORKS
- RAI
- DC STARTREK
- BATMAN & THE OUTSIDERS

AND NOW...

THRAX!

WHY THRAX?
WHY NOW?

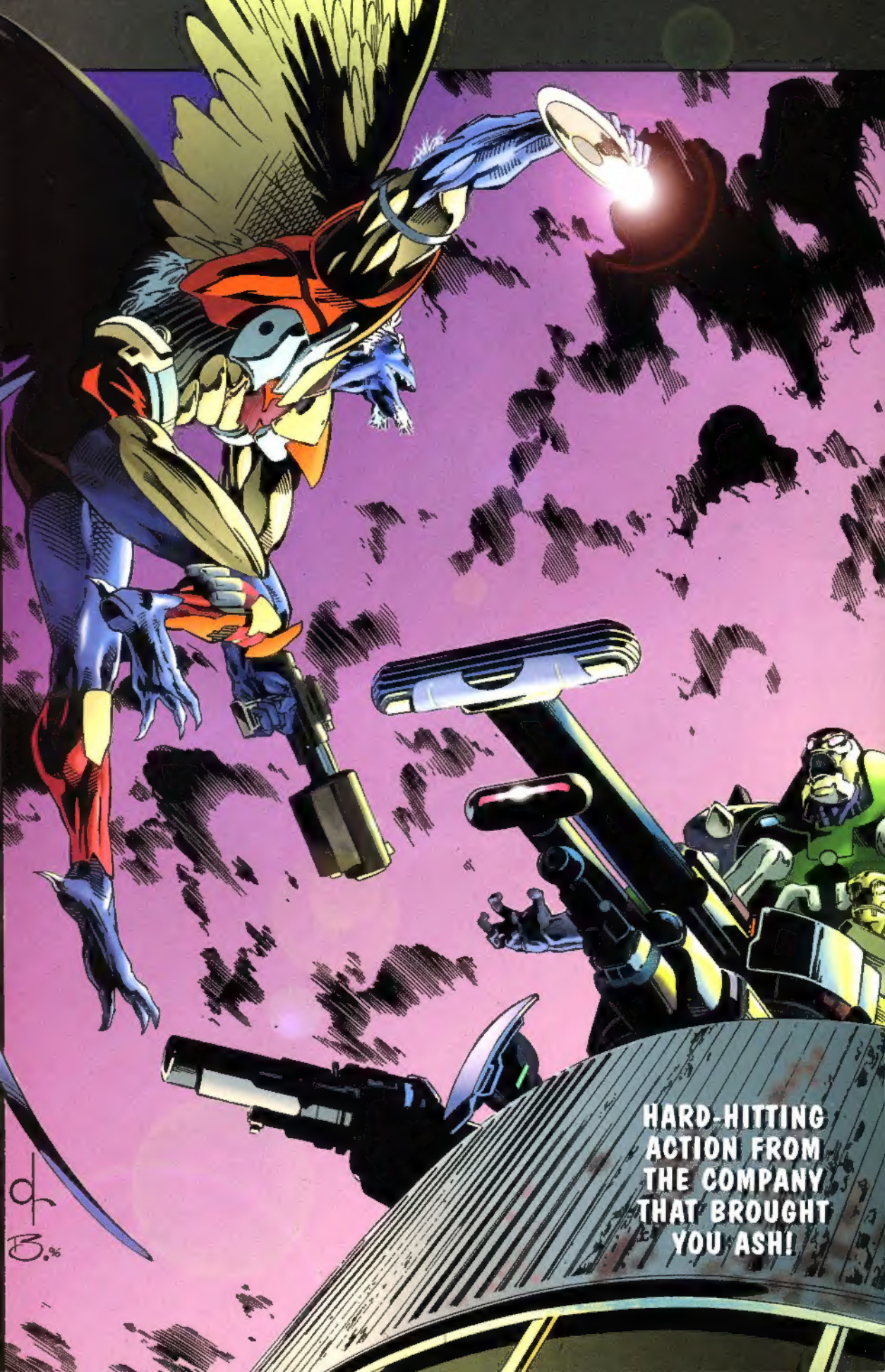
"I GOT A TASTE OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO DO A CREATOR-OWNED PROJECT EARLY ON IN MY CAREER WITH 'AVALONE' FOR PACIFIC COMICS. I WROTE, DREW & COLORED IT. IT WAS A GREAT EXPERIENCE AND ONE I'VE WANTED TO GET BACK TO FOR A LONG TIME. FOR YEARS I HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING THRAX AND THE STORYLINES SURROUNDING HIM. ITS A REAL KICK TO FINALLY BE GETTING MY CREATIONS OUT THERE IN THEIR PUREST FORM. I'VE ALSO GOT A LOT OF MAJORLY TALENTED PEOPLE WORKING WITH ME, BUT HEY, SEEING IS BELIEVING!"

spotlightspotlightsp Thrax™ spotlightspotligh

TOM WEGRZYN

Brought forth into the world on February 16, 1970, Tom Wegrzyn has led what some would call a colorful life. Having left his mark in Poland, Austria, Costa Rica and New York City... Tom is currently wrecking havoc in Toronto, CANADA and plans to draw under sunnier skies one day. Encouraged to ink by his good buddy Mark and near-fatal lawn-mowing accident only two years ago in which his most talented finger was severed... Tom realized that the time had come to leave landscaping behind and give up his tan for a set of pens and brushes. With his finger sewed back on and his first inks created by tightly wrapped bandage... Tom's samples were sent by Ken Lashly to his editor and the rest is (as they say) one of the most exhilarating jobs in the world. Inspired by great talents Mark Farmer and Cam Smith, Tom's portfolio now includes Excalibur, Doc Samson, Exiles, The Incredible Hulk, Thrax and many more!

Next Issue... Spotlight on Mike Baron!


HARD-HITTING ACTION FROM THE COMPANY THAT BROUGHT YOU ASH!

SCANNED BY BRO-DA HISOU
I DON'T CARE. YOU DIDN'T SEED, NOW I'M GONNA KICK YOUR ASS!
BRO-DA HISOU I AM YOUR FATHER
IF YOU LIKE IT BUY IT!